

Message Text

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ACTION IO-03

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INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0511

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, CY

SUBJECT: CYPRUS IN SC

1. BRITISH AND FRENCH HAVE DESCRIBED TO US CONSULTATIONS
THEY HELD FEB. 18 WITH CLERIDES, CHRISTOPHIDES, ET AL.
BOTH DELEGATIONS REPORT CLERIDES HAD TWO MAIN PREOCCUPATIONS:
A) IMPOSITION OF A TIME LIMIT FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF GA RES
3212, AND B) CREATION OF A WIDER NEGOTIATING FORUM. BRITISH
HAD DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT MAIN CYPRIOT OBJECTIVE WAS TIME
LIMIT OF ABOUT THREE MONTHS BEFORE TALKS COULD BE RESUMED RATHER
THAN NEW NEGOTIATING FORUM, ABOUT WHICH CLERIDES SEEMED
VAGUE AND SOMEWHAT DISINTERESTED. INDEED, UKUN
FELT THAT NEW FORUM WAS POSSIBLY BEING FLOATED AS TRADE-OFF
FOR TIME LIMIT. AS FOR NATURE OF WIDER FORUM, CLERIDES SPOKE
TO FRENCH OF A CONFERENCE COMPROMISING SC PERMANENT MEMBERS,
"A FEW NON-ALIGNED," AND THE INTERESTED PARTIES. WITH BRITISH
HE DESCRIBED NEW FORUM AS BEING COMPOSED OF THREE GUARANTOR
POWERS, TWO COMMUNITES AND SOME NON-ALIGNED - "POSSIBLY
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FIVE NON-ALIGNED CYPRUS WORKING GROUP MEMBERS."

2. CLERIDES EMPHASIZED TO BOTH BRITISH AND FRENCH THAT HE COULD NOT ACCEPT A SIMPLE CALL TO RESUME THE CURRENT TALKS. HE TOLD BRITISH IT WAS "INCONCEIVABLE" THAT HE SHOULD RESUME NEGOTIATIONS WITH DENKTASH UNLESS SC MADE A MEANINGFUL GESTURE TOWARD IMPLEMENTING RESOLUTIONS PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED BY IT AND GA. BRITISH BELIEVED HIM TO BE UTTERLY SERIOUS.

3. OUR CONSULTATIONS DURING DAY WITH OTHER SC MEMBERS SHOWED THAT EVERY ONE EXCEPT SOVIETS WOULD BE HAPPY IF IT WERE POSSIBLE TO GET AWAY WITH SIMPLE EXHORTATION FOR RESUMPTION OF TALKS AND NO INTERNATIONALIZATION. AT SAME TIME, MOST BELIEVE CYPRIOTS WILL REQUIRE MORE THAN THIS, AND THAT MAIN GOAL SHOULD BE TO GET TWO SIDES BACK TO NEGOTIATING TABLE WITH LEAST POSSIBLE SC INTERFERENCE.

4. COMMENT: CLERIDES' CURRENT TACKS OF A TIME LIMIT AND/OR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE SEEM TO US THE SUREST WAYS OF PROVOKING TURKISH INTRANSIGENCE AND VIRTUALLY GUARANTEEING DEADLOCK IN THE NICOSIA TALKS. HOWEVER, IT STRIKES US AS PLAUSIBLE THAT CLERIDES REALLY DOES NEED A GESTURE -MAINLY TO OBTAIN MAKARIOS' AGREEMENT TO CONTINUE CURRENT TALKS. LEAST OBJECTIONABLE GESTURE MENTIONED SO FAR IS SMALL SC MISSION OF NON-PERMANENT MEMBER PERM REPS WITH A MANDATE RESTRICTED TO REVIVING NICOSIA NEGOTIATIONS. FROM OUR TALKS WITH TURKISH MISSION, WE BELIEVE ANKARA MIGHT NOT OPPOSE SUCH A MISSION. POSSIBLE CANDIDATES WOULD BE SWEDEN (AN IMPORTANT UNFICYP CONTRIBUTOR WITH A STRONG, PRO-WESTERN PERM REP), GUYANA (PRO-GOC MEMBER OF NON-ALIGNED CYPRUS WORKING GROUP WITH INTELLIGENT, SOMETIMES HELPFUL PERM REP), AND MAURITANIA (FOR PRO-TURKISH BALANCE). INCLUDING MORE THAN THREE MEMBERS WOULD LEAD TO EXTREME PRESSURE FOR ADDING REPRESENTATIVES OF EACH REGIONAL GROUP- INCLUDING BYELORUSSIA. ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATION WOULD BE TO DRAW UP SC MISSION MANDATE IN SUCH A WAY AS TO DEROGATE AS LITTLE AS POSSIBLE FROM PRESENT MANDATE OF SYG AND HIS REPRESENTATIVE.

5. SC CONSULTATIONS ARE SCHEDULED FOR 10:30 AM TOMORROW, FEBRUARY 19, REPORTEDLY TO TRY AND RECONCILE CYPRUS DESIRE FOR MEETING TOMORROW AFTERNOON WITH TURKISH WISH TO HOLD OFF
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FORMAL MEETING UNTIL AFTER SYG'S RETURN TO NEW YORK LATE FEB 20.
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